

# What's Suriname?

OPSGROUP Team  
20 February, 2023



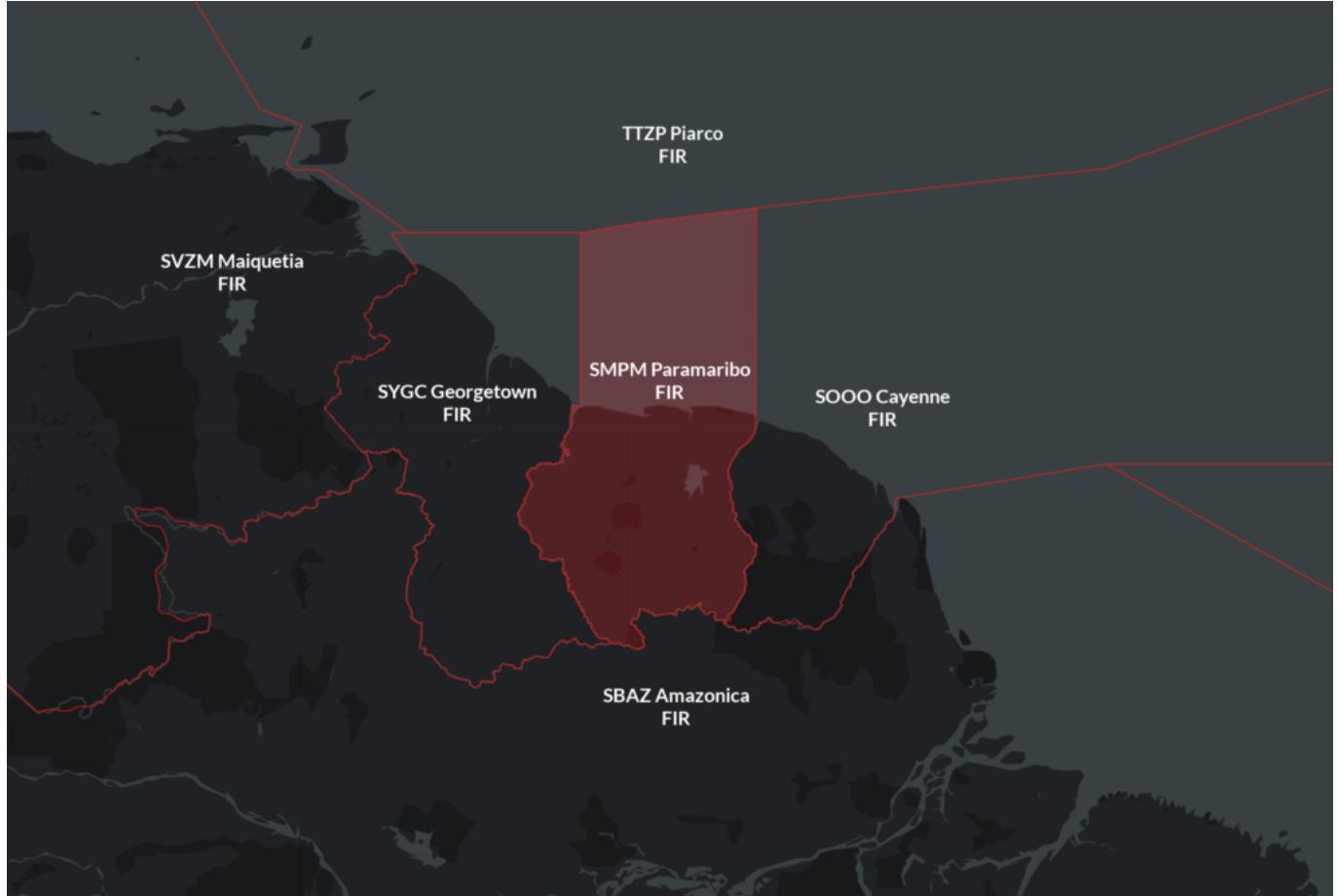
Hello Suriname. Tell us about yourself.

## Who are you?

Ik ben een klein land... *Translating Translating...* I am a small land in norther South America, bordering the Atlantic Ocean, and sandwich between Guyana, French Guiana and Brazil.

## Tell us an interesting fact about yourself

I am the only country outside of Europe where Dutch is the main language.



There you are in red

### **Wow, cool, so why are we interviewing you today?**

Well, folk flying over from Europe and Africa probably overfly me if they are **routing to the western side of South America**.

And I have had two big 'issues' recently that might impact them..

### **Uh oh, that doesn't sound good...**

No, it hasn't been.

On February 17, 2023 a load of my **ATS staff were not available** so we had to **close the airspace in SMPM/Paramaribo**. It was only from 1800z to 0100z on Feb 18, but it means contingency routes and levels were in place, and we had to coordinate with adjacent centers for everyone trying to get in and out of SMJP/Paramaribo.

We did issue a Notam on it - **A0024/23**

A0024/23 NOTAMN

Q) SMPM/QAFXX/IV/NBO/E/000/999

A) SMPM B) 2302171800 C) 2302180100

E) AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES UNAVAILABLE WITHIN PARAMARIBO AIRSPACE UNDER ACC DUE TO STAFF SHORTAGE. ALL FLIGHTS SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS TO SELECT SPECIFIC CONTINGENCY ROUTES AND FLIGHT LEVELS APPLICABLE TO THE CONTINGENCY ROUTES AS DETAILED BY AIC A01/21. ADJACENT AREA CONTROL CENTRES WILL ALLOCATE ONLY THE CONTINGENCY ROUTES AND FLIGHT LEVELS

SPECIFIED FOR THE DISRUPTED AIRSPACE.

IN CASE OF INBOUND FLIGHTS TO SMJP ADJACENT CENTRES WILL COORDINATE DIRECTLY WITH PENGEL APPROACH/TOWER ON THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS BELOW. DEPARTURE FLIGHTS FROM SMJP WILL ALSO BE ALLOWED AFTER COORDINATION WITH THE ACCEPTING ADJACENT CENTRE.

PHONE NUMBER SMJP APP/TWR

00597325176

00597325313

The Notam

### Well done on the Notam. Tell us about this other issue?

Well, as it turns out, people aren't very happy. Actually, this might have been where all my ATS staff were.

On February 17 there was a lot of **civil unrest in the capital Paramaribo**. Folk were storming about and a state of emergency was declared.

The US embassy issued a warning on **security concerns**, and advised there could be a suspension of ops at SMJP/Paramaribo if it happens again.

### What can folk do who are heading to the area?

Keep an eye out for Notams and news related to:

- **More ATC zero** events (and contingencies)
- **Suspension or disruption** at SMJP/Paramaribo (Johan Adolf Pendel) airport
- Think about **security on the ground** if you do head in
- Contact **SMJP tower** - 00597325176 / 00597325313 - if you have queries
- *Share your contact for handling agents on the ground there if you have*

## Give us some last handy tips

Alright.

If you do want to head in or overfly then **you'll need a permit** (a permit for everything!)

You need to give **three days notice** and apply direct to the authorities. *Dionne Paskald* is very helpful in the CAA. Send a fax with all of the documents, then send those same in an email. If landing you will need to provide copies of **vaccination certs for yellow fever** with the permit application for all crew members. You should also **send passenger and crew manifest** when applying for a landing permit.

**The CAA of Suriname** contact info is: +597 498 901 / +597 498 901 / d.paskald@cadur.sr / dca@cadur.sr / airtran@cadur.sr

### We told a story about Suriname in 2021

They had an ATC zero event back in 2021 as well, and we wrote about it here with much more info on the contingency procedures (in case you need them again in the future).

### Someone told us a story about SMJP/Paramaribo ages ago (2015)

*"We arrived on a flight from Sao Paulo Guarulhos (SBGR) from UL776. We were cleared from our last enroute fix to the Paramaribo FIR boundary fix Tirios (TIR) NDB. Communications with Amazonica Control became broken at best and unreadable most of the time. We tried contacting Paramaribo Control without handoff as we approached TIR but all the frequencies on the Hi en route chart did not work. After numerous tries back to Amazonica on last assigned frequency we finally picked up 133.3 as a good frequency for Paramaribo. We were instructed by Paramaribo to fly 080 degree heading out of TIR to intercept the YZ (VOR) 200 degree radial to YZ. Out of 6000"*

If you have a new one, file it at Airport Spy.

### Here is some other info we dug up:

- SMJP/Paramaribo airport has **one runway (11/29)** which is 11,417' (3480m) and has an ILS for 11 and an RNP for 29
- There is another international airport, for GA - **SMZO/Zorg en Hoop** - but its runway is only 750m long so probably not one you want to plan on using
- **SOCA/Cayenne**, French Guiana is the closest alternate (173nm)
- **SYCJ/Georgetown**, Guyana is the next closest (194nm)

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# No overnight ATC in Suriname airspace

David Mumford  
20 February, 2023



Watch out if planning to overfly the **SMPM/Paramaribo FIR** this week - there's an **ATC strike happening each night between 0100-1100z**, finishing at 1100z on June 4.

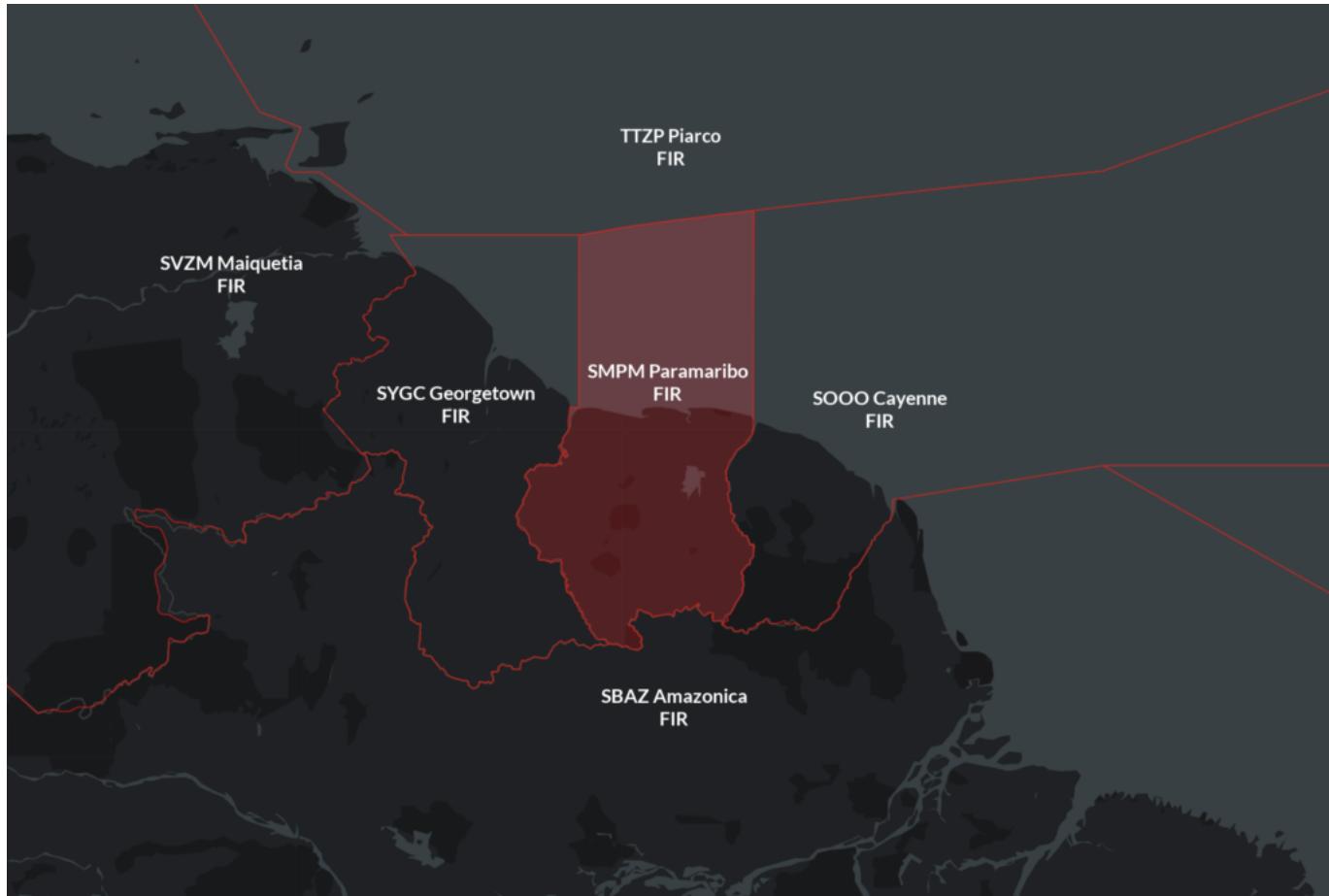
Each night, the airspace will effectively be uncontrolled with Contingency Procedures in place:

- Neighboring ACCs will be controlling the airspace
- Only certain routes are available
- No speed/level changes are allowed.
- Only medevac and emergency flights will receive any air traffic services.

**Here's the Notam:**

SMPM PARAMARIBO (ACC)  
A0063/21 - DUE TO INDUSTRIAL STRIKE NO ATC SERVICE AVBL  
ATM CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR PARAMARIBO FIR ACT  
ONLY MED AND EMERG FLT WILL REC ATS.  
DAILY 0100-1100, 29 MAY 01:00 2021 UNTIL 04 JUN 11:00 2021.  
CREATED: 27 MAY 23:01 2021

**Here's where we're talking about:**



#### **Procedures for the neighbouring ACCs:**

- a.** Transmit Flight Plan messages to Paramaribo ACC through AMHS.
- b.** Authorize entrance into Paramaribo FIR, in agreement with the longitudinal separation established in this Contingency Plan.
- c.** Do not authorize any Flight Level or speed (Mach number, if applicable) change in the 10 minutes prior to the aircraft entrance into Paramaribo FIR.
- d.** Instruct pilots to keep the last assigned Flight Level and Mach number while over-flying Paramaribo FIR.
- e.** Instruct pilots to contact the adjacent ACC as soon as possible and at least 10 minutes before the estimated times over exit point of Paramaribo FIR.

#### **Pilot and operator procedures:**

- a.** Pilots shall include in the last position report to the competent adjacent ACC the estimated times over entry and exit points of the PARAMARIBO FIR.
- b.** Aircraft are to operate as close as possible to the centreline of the assigned contingency route.
- c.** contact the competent ACC as soon as possible and at least 15 minutes before the estimated times over exit point of PARAMARIBO FIR.
- d.** Keep navigation and anti-collision lights continually on while PARAMARIBO FIR is being overflowed.
- e.** Maintain the flight level and the Mach number assigned by the competent adjacent ACC while operating within PARAMARIBO FIR, unless for emergency or flight safety reasons.
- f.** Pilots need to continuously guard the VHF emergency frequency 121.5 MHz and should operate their transponder at all times during flight.
- g.** Transponders should be set on a discrete code assigned by the adjacent stations of PARAMARIBO ACC or select code 2000.
- h.** whenever emergencies and/or flight safety reasons make it impossible to maintain the flight level assigned for the transit through the PARAMARIBO FIR;

- The pilot shall immediately inform all other aircraft of the emergency, eventually level change,

using blind transmissions on emergency frequency 121.500 MHz and on pilots' air to air frequency 123.450 MHz.

- Broadcast every position and intention on emergency frequency 121.500 MHz and on pilots' air to air frequency 123.450 MHz.

**To check which routes are available, check out the Contingency Plan in full here:**

TEL/FX: (597) 462352 or 499561 AFS: SMJPVNYX / SMPBYNYX ADRES: DOEKHIEWEG OOST # 1 PARAMARIBO SURINAME P.O.BOX: 2956 E-MAIL: <a href="mailto:ais@cadur.sr">ais@cadur.sr</a> <a href="mailto:ais.sur@hotmail.com">ais.sur@hotmail.com</a>	 MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION SERVICES P.O.BOX 2956 PARAMARIBO REPUBLIC OF SURINAME	<b>AIC SERIES A</b> <b>A 11/18</b> <b>11 OCT 2018</b>
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**AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR**

**ATM CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR PARAMARIBO FIR**

**1. OBJECTIVE:**

1.1 This contingency plan contains arrangements to ensure the continued safety of air navigation in the event of partially or total disruption of air traffic services (ATS) within the Paramaribo FIR and is related to ICAO Annex 11- *Air Traffic Services* Chapter 2, paragraph 2.31.

1.2 This contingency plan is designed to provide alternative routes, using existing airways, which allows aircraft operators to fly through or avoid airspace within the PARAMARIBO FIR.

**2. AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT**

**2.1 ATS Responsibilities**

2.1.1 In the event that ATS cannot be provided within the PARAMARIBO FIR, PARAMARIBO ACC shall publish the corresponding NOTAM indicating the following:

- Time and date of the beginning of the contingency measures;
- Airspace and air routes available for arriving, departing and overflying traffic and airspace to be avoided;
- Details of the facilities and services available or not available and any limits on ATS provision (e.g., ACC, TWR-APP and FIS), including an expected date of restoration of services if available;
- Information on the provisions made for alternative services;
- ATS Contingency Routes;
- Procedures to be followed by adjacent ATS units;
- Procedures to be followed by pilots; and
- Any other details with respect to the disruption and actions being taken that aircraft operators may find useful.

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AIC A 11/18

**If you need to contact the authorities in Paramaribo, here are their details:**

#### **Paramaribo ACC**

E-mail: [pengelacc@gmail.com](mailto:pengelacc@gmail.com) and [radha\\_atwaroe@hotmail.com](mailto:radha_atwaroe@hotmail.com)  
TEL: 00597-325203 or 00597-8555025

#### **International NOTAM office**

E-mail: [ais.sur@hotmail.com](mailto:ais.sur@hotmail.com) and [ais@cadur.sr](mailto:ais@cadur.sr)

# Midweek Briefing 22JUN: Iceland ATC strike - end in sight, Israel FPL changes

Cynthia Claros  
20 February, 2023

**INTERNATIONAL  
BULLETIN**

**ISSUED BY FLIGHT SERVICE BUREAU**  
SITA HNLFSXH AKLFSXH AFTN KMCOXAAL  
EMAIL INTL.DESK@FSBUREAU.ORG



**Iceland ATC strike - end in sight** 22JUN Operators on both sides of the Atlantic have been frustrated over the last 6 weeks with continual sporadic ATC Industrial action. And end may be in sight, but in the meantime keep a close eye on BIRK, BIKF and BIRD Notams. Read the article.

**FPL changes: Israel** 22JUN Current Flight Planning procedures for flights across Europe from Israel will change in light of a new agreement signed between Israel and Eurocontrol. Read the article.

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**LFZZ/France** ATC Strike Number 9 gets underway today until 24JUN at 0400Z, usual disruption and restrictions apply. Avoid France where possible. NOTAM F1171/16 refers.

**EGGX/Shanwick** is having an 80's party on the 28th of June at 1600Z. For engineering work, all the new technology is being taken offline for three hours, so no CPDLC, ADS-C or OCL. Instead we have Voice Reports, HF, Manual Clearance Requests (123.95 or 127.65), and so on; just like the good old days. When you hit 30W log on to Gander manually.

**UMZZ/Belarus** The Minsk FIR has updated its table of cruising levels and altitudes below Transition; view the AIC.

**Gambia** The UK FCO issued updated travel advice for The Gambia : "Demonstrations took place in April and May 2016 in Banjul. Demonstrations could occur at any time in any part of the country prior to

presidential elections planned for 01DEC. You should be vigilant, avoid all demonstrations"

**LPZZ/Portugal** is joining the International ATC Strike Club and will begin with industrial action, for two hours daily on: June 30th, and July 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th.

**KCXO/Houston Regional** will be opening a new customs facility mid July. KCXO serves the Metro-Houston area and is 46 miles outside of town. The new CBP facility adds more choice to international operators over the already saturated Houston area airports.

**KZZZ/United States** The U.S. Navy has scrubbed the planned military GPS interference testing across the U.S. Southwest that was supposed to happen this month.

**LWSS/Skopje** is implementing Free Route Airspace in the Skopje ACC above FL245, effective 23JUN. FRA is available H24 with DCT limit unlimited. The ATS network above FL245 is withdrawn. Additional info is available in the Republic of Macedonia AIP AMD 58/16. New RAD measures can be found in the increment file and will become part of Annex 4 on AIRAC 1608.

**LWZZ/Macedonia** Late on 20JUN, tens of thousands of anti-government protesters gathered in central Skopje, Macedonia's capital, to conduct another demonstration. The protesters gathered outside the Special Prosecution building before then marching to the Ministry of Justice building, where they broke some of its windows and threw red paint at its exterior.

**EZZZ/Scandinavia** Another Free Route Airspace update is happening in the two Functional Airspace Blocks NEFAB and DK/SE FAB. NEFRA Phase 1 will be implemented as of AIRAC 1607 on 23JUN, to implement H24 cross border Free Route Airspace between DK-SE FAB and NEFAB, except Norway, above FL285. ATS routes will be kept. Norway plans to implement cross-border Free Route Airspace spring 2017.

**CYZZ/Canada** has introduced "No Drone Zones" around airports that includes fines for offenders caught operating drones in the restricted areas. They are also drafting new legislation to strengthen rules regarding drone operations.

**LEMD/Madrid** may have industrial action on 28JUN, the Apron controllers are making noises about a strike. Not confirmed.

**WAZZ/Indonesia FIR** Ujung Pandang FIR has a couple of radar outages from 19-27JUN. Reroutes or delays are not likely, but strong potential for lower than optimum Flight Levels.

**HECC/Cairo FIR** If for some reason you are operating flights to or from Libya, then **A:** You're probably not reading this bulletin carefully enough, and **B:** Be aware that you are required to obtain PPR from Egypt via AFTN to HECA NYX, at least 48 hours before the flight, in order to overfly Cairo FIR.

**EGAA/Belfast** ILS 25 out of service along with other ongoing runway and taxiway closures until 11AUG16. Please check EGAA NOTAM's for specific closures.

**EGLF/Farnborough** Temporary restricted airspace will be in effect for the annual Farnborough Airshow 16-17JUL. AIC M 033/2016.

**France** The French authorities have extended the document checks at their borders, these measures will apply to all airports in France and also to Basel airport. Especially during the period of the European Football Championships, passengers travelling to/ from French airports are asked to ensure they have a valid identity document (passport or identity card) with them whilst travelling. A drivers license is not an acceptable document.

**VTBB/Bangkok FIR** Monsoon season runs July-September. Big potential for holding and airport closures in the region, taking extra fuel is recommended.

**OEZZ/Saudi Arabia** FIR is introducing new Navigation Charges on 01JUL. All the maths is here.

**LSZA/Lugano** will close 10-19OCT due to heavy maintenance work on the main runway. No traffic will be able to operate. The airport operator has said 20OCT should be the reopening day but risk that this may be extended.

**WMZZ/Malaysia** Following a directive by the Malaysian Immigration Department, all foreign nationals travelling on all domestic flights will be required to produce passports upon passing through Immigration control, effective immediately.

**Azerbaijan** An online e-visa issuing system, called ASAN Visa, will be established that should streamline the visa application process. Eligible foreign nationals will be able to obtain supporting documents, submit their visa applications and receive an e-visa within three days of submission through the portal. The list of eligible nationals is expected to be available soon on the Foreign Ministry website.

**EGPK/Prestwick** has ongoing overnight closures due to ATC staffing problems, keep an eye on NOTAMs.

**EIDW/Dublin** will closed for 15 minutes at 1500Z on 23JUN due to a VIP departure.

**NWWW/New Caledonia** The South Pacific is not exempt from ATC strikes either; overnight closure of the NWWW airspace means no enroute traffic accepted in the FIR tonight – and sporadically ongoing. Note that the Fire Service also has reduced RFF category at specific times. Check Notams.

**SKED/Bogota FIR** NOTAM of the month award: Colombia Notam A1947 issued on 17JUN. Be aware of the potential for your Cabin Crew to request a change to the SID from ATC, unbeknownst to you. In full: "CHANGES TO STANDAR (sic) INSTRUMENT DEPARTURE (SID) COULD BE DONE BY RADIOTELEPHONY BETWEEN CABIN CREW AND THE CORRESPONDING ATS DEPARTMENT WHILE COMMUNICATION INTERCHANGE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH AERODROME OPERATIONS REF. AIP ENR 1.10".

We actually have no idea what they mean. Let us know, and keep an eye out for those sneaky flight attendants.

**LEPA/Palma** has a bunch of outages, and runway and taxiway closures at present that will create restrictions and delays. Take a close look at your arrival and dep times before operating.

**Suriname** Immunisation checks for Yellow Fever are being carried out throughout June at all border check points, ports and international airports in Suriname; make sure you have a valid yellow fever certificate if required.

**RJZZ/Japan** On 22JUN heavy rains caused building damage and fatalities in southwestern Japan. At least six people died, as a result of the rain and mudslides across the island of Kyushu. Emergency personnel evacuated several hundred people due to the threat of further mudslides.

**Uzbekistan** has increased security due to a major summit, from 23-34JUN which may result in changes to flight departures and lengthy check in and security clearance at airports across the county.

View the full International Bulletin 22JUN2016